

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 13, 15-17, 19-22 and 24-26 are currently pending in the application. Claims 4, 5, 9-12, 14, 18 and 23 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 2, 13, 15, 24 and 26 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Karpinski, "Mail Room Mainstay Tracks Packs," Internetweek, October 21, 1997 (hereinafter Karpinski) in view of WebMethods ( a collection of related articles from PTO-892). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, are allowable.

Amended independent Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a tracking system that includes means for generating a tracking number, means for generating a tracking request, a tracking coordinator for receipt of said tracking request and for generating tracking objects and sending said tracking objects to the tracking website of the selected carrier, wherein the tracking coordinator limits the generation of tracking objects for a particular carrier so as to be generated no more frequently than a predetermined number of tracking objects per predetermined time interval.

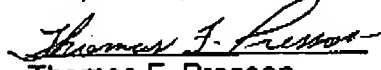
Independent Claim 15 is a corresponding method claim.

Applicants submit that neither Karpinski nor the Webpages, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features of Claims 1 and 15, specifically the above-described features. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claims 1 and 15 are allowable.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are now in a condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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